Read Dec. 1

C. H., M.

Theo. Sem. Fairfax Co. Va
November 7th 1854.

From the Missionary Society of Inquiry
of the Theological Seminary of Virginia
To the Society of Inquiry
of the Princeton Theological Seminary:

Brethren Beloved in the Lord:

It was with no little pleasure that we received your kind letter of September the 27th - and we gladly renew a correspondence with your Society. It may not be known to some of your present members that in 1824 - shortly after the establishment of the Virginia Seminary - a letter was sent by your Society to the Students of this Seminary, which was the immediate cause of the organization of our Missionary Society. This Society has been continued ever since, generally embracing nearly all of the members of the Seminary - and from it have gone forth all the missionaries of the Protestant Episcopal Church, who are now laboring among the Heathen. We therefore feel that there is an especial bond of sympathy between us and yourselves, and your brotherly greetings have met with no cold response from our hearts. We are glad to hear of your spiritual welfare

and especially of the prevalence among you of that spirit which has led some of your number to devote themselves to the sacred cause of carrying the glorious gospel of the blessed God to those who are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death. May God grant you an increase of that spirit!

Though with you we are constrained to mourn that we have not more of the Missionary Spirit - yet with you we can also rejoice that that spirit, which we believe to be so pre-eminently the spirit of the Gospel, is still among us. Robert Smith lately one of our number is now on his way to Africa. May He who rules the raging of the sea, protect him, and bring him in safety to the haven where he would be! John D. Powell of the last graduating class has been ordained and is waiting to embark for China. In the present Senior class; out of fifteen students, two expect to labour in China and one in Africa - and some others will probably devote themselves to the great West of our own land. In the Middle class out of nine students two are already looking to China as the field of their future labours. Though we know of none of the Junior class who have as yet arrived at a decision upon this great question, yet we believe that there are some who have the subject under their most serious and prayerful consideration.

We believe that what Missionary Spirit there is among us, has been greatly owing under God

to the meetings of our Society. On every Thursday Evening we have a Missionary Prayer Meeting - which is attended by nearly all of the Students. At our monthly missionary meeting, which is public, an address is delivered - a report read, and a collection made for the cause of Missions. Besides these we have a Yearly meeting - So that the subject is continually brought before us and we believe that it is hardly possible for a Student to pass through a course at our Seminary without seriously considering the question of his duty to the Heathen. And it is our sincere desire and Earnest prayer that our beloved Seminary may never send forth a class that shall not furnish some laborers for the Missionary field. Oh that the Lord would give to his Universal Church in our day, a share of that Spirit which marked her primitive glory, when She was in deed what she is now only in name, an active Missionary Society whose dearest motto was the Command "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature". Then might she go forth in the strength of her King, with a prospect of certain victory - and the time would not be far distant when the kingdoms of this world should become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ. Brethren, let us unite our prayers for the speedy coming of that time. We are

Very Affectionately yours in the Lord -

Samuel B. Dalrymple

Cor. Sec. of the Miss. Soc. of Ing.